

CLUSTER: COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CHILD FIND SYSTEM

OBJECTIVE: All infants and toddlers with developmental delays, disabilities, and/or who are at-risk are identified, evaluated and referred for services.

Notes:

- Components and indicators marked with an “*” are included in Cluster Lite.
- Related professional development is listed under the indicators. For descriptions of the professional development, please refer to the Comprehensive System of Professional Development section.
- General notes about the data analyzed in this report can be found in the Data Explanations section.

COMPONENT CC*.1: Does the implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated Child Find system result in the identification, evaluation and assessment of all eligible infants and toddlers?

<p>Overview Answer: Based on the current census and child count numbers of infants and toddlers identified under the old system, Missouri does not identify or evaluate all eligible infants and toddlers. Based on preliminary data from Phase I, we are seeing increases in the identification of infants and toddlers in the counties in Phase 1.</p>
<p>Strengths: The individual child record system will provide improved data regarding referral sources. Regionally based SPOEs will provide easier access to the system. An expanded provider base will improve availability of services.</p>
<p>Areas of Concern: Missouri's eligibility criterion does not include at-risk infants and toddlers. According to the December 1, 2001 child count, Missouri is currently serving 1.28 percent of the population of infants and toddlers. This percent is much lower than national baseline of 1.81 percent for states not serving at-risk children. The percent of racial/ethnic groups served by First Steps is not consistent with Missouri demographics. Current state budget constraints are a concern. Continued work with the medical community to refer infants and toddlers to the First Step program is needed.</p>
<p>Other Comments: The redesign recommended the Missouri eligibility criteria be expanded to identify a broader range of at-risk infants and toddlers. Due to the current state budget constraints, this recommendation is currently not being considered.</p>

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<p>CC.1.1*: Is the percentage of eligible infants and toddlers identified and referred comparable to national demographic data for the percentage of infants and toddlers with development delays?</p> <p>Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State 618 data• US Census, 2000• SPOE database <p>Related CSPD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Steps Module –Assessment and Eligibility• First Steps Bulletins	<p>Data Summary:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number and Percent of Infants and Toddlers Receiving Early Intervention Services</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Birth to 1 (0-12 months)</th><th>1 to 2 (12-24 months)</th><th>2 to 3 (24-36 months)</th><th>Total (0-36 months)</th></tr><tr><td>2001 Child Count</td><td>309</td><td>873</td><td>1,643</td><td>2,825</td></tr><tr><td>Missouri Population</td><td>72,842</td><td>74,277</td><td>73,949</td><td>221,068</td></tr><tr><td>Part C Participation</td><td>0.42%</td><td>1.18%</td><td>2.22%</td><td>1.28%</td></tr><tr><td>National Participation</td><td>0.94%</td><td>Unknown</td><td>Unknown</td><td>1.81%</td></tr><tr><td>Phase 1 Child Count</td><td>146</td><td>403</td><td>924</td><td>1,473</td></tr><tr><td>Phase 1 Population</td><td>27,200</td><td>28,107</td><td>28,292</td><td>83,599</td></tr><tr><td>Phase 1 Participation</td><td>0.54%</td><td>1.43%</td><td>3.27%</td><td>1.76%</td></tr></table> <p style="text-align: center;">Infants and Toddlers Receiving Early Intervention Services By Racial/Ethnic Category</p> <p style="text-align: center;">As of December 1, 2001</p> <table><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">First Steps</th><th colspan="2">Missouri</th></tr><tr><td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td><td>3</td><td>0.11%</td><td>6,137</td><td>0.43%</td></tr><tr><td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td><td>26</td><td>0.92%</td><td>15,233</td><td>1.07%</td></tr><tr><td>Black (Not Hispanic)</td><td>354</td><td>12.53%</td><td>234,626</td><td>16.43%</td></tr><tr><td>Hispanic</td><td>55</td><td>1.95%</td><td>42,713</td><td>2.99%</td></tr><tr><td>White (Not Hispanic)</td><td>2,387</td><td>84.50%</td><td>1,128,983</td><td>79.08%</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>2,825</td><td>100.00%</td><td>1,427,692</td><td>100.00%</td></tr></table> <p>*Missouri data represents all children under age eighteen. Source: 2001 Missouri Kids Count.</p> <p>Committee Conclusions:</p> <p>The Missouri percentages are below the 2 percent national estimates. The Phase 1 SPOE data indicates improving child find in that participation rates are higher than under the old First Steps system. The percent of racial/ethnic groups served by First Steps is not consistent with Missouri demographics.</p>		Birth to 1 (0-12 months)	1 to 2 (12-24 months)	2 to 3 (24-36 months)	Total (0-36 months)	2001 Child Count	309	873	1,643	2,825	Missouri Population	72,842	74,277	73,949	221,068	Part C Participation	0.42%	1.18%	2.22%	1.28%	National Participation	0.94%	Unknown	Unknown	1.81%	Phase 1 Child Count	146	403	924	1,473	Phase 1 Population	27,200	28,107	28,292	83,599	Phase 1 Participation	0.54%	1.43%	3.27%	1.76%		First Steps		Missouri		American Indian or Alaska Native	3	0.11%	6,137	0.43%	Asian or Pacific Islander	26	0.92%	15,233	1.07%	Black (Not Hispanic)	354	12.53%	234,626	16.43%	Hispanic	55	1.95%	42,713	2.99%	White (Not Hispanic)	2,387	84.50%	1,128,983	79.08%	Total	2,825	100.00%	1,427,692	100.00%
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<p>CC.1.2*: Is the percentage of eligible infants with disabilities under the age of one that are receiving Part C services comparable with national and state prevalence data?</p> <p>Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State 618 data • US Census, 2000 • SPOE database <p>Related CSPD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Steps Module –Assessment and Eligibility • First Steps Bulletins 	<p>Data Summary: See data table in CC.1.1.</p> <p>Committee Conclusions: The participation rate for infants with disabilities under the age of one is lower than national prevalence data. The Phase 1 SPOE data indicates slightly improved child find in that the participation rate for this age group went from 0.42 percent to 0.54 percent.</p>

COMPONENT CC.2*: Do families have access to culturally relevant materials that inform and promote referral of eligible infants and toddlers to the child find system?

Overview Answer: Currently, information is available only in English and Spanish.
Strengths: First Steps materials have been revised to address the new system, and a plan was developed to offer materials in other languages. The new child data system will provide improved reporting on racial/ethnic groups. This information can be compared with county census data to determine appropriate percentages of minority groups to target. Materials can then be made available to the SPOEs based on the ethnic composition of the counties they serve.
Areas of Concern: A public awareness campaign to target under represented groups needs to be developed.
Other Comments:

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<p>CC.2.1*: Do families have access to culturally relevant materials that inform and promote referral of eligible infants and toddlers to the child find system?</p> <p>Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Awareness Plan • First Steps Informing Materials (brochure, poster) 	<p>Data Summary: First Steps Together posters, which were general awareness and referral posters, were developed in Spanish and disseminated to regional centers, Division of Family Services (DFS) offices, Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICC) and Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). Public awareness brochures are printed in English, Spanish and other languages will be developed depending upon area needs.</p> <p>Committee Conclusions: There is a need to develop and implement a Public Awareness Plan to target specific racial/ethnic groups that will promote referrals of diverse populations.</p>